

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4799

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PORG, MO, UN, SS

SUBJECT: UN COMMITTEE OF 24 CONSIDERATION OF QUESTION OF WESTERN
SAHARA, AUGUST 4, 1977

REF: RABAT 4335

1. SUMMARY: ON AUGUST 4, COMMITTEE OF 24 POSTPONED CONSIDERA-
TION OF WESTERN SAHARA AND REFERRED QUESTION TO 32ND UNGA.
FURTHER POSTPONEMENT BY UNGA APPEARS POSSIBLE. END SUMMARY.

2. UN COMMITTEE OF 24 (C-24) GAVE QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA
BRIEF CONSIDERATION AUGUST 4. C-24 CHAIRMAN AMB SALIM
(TANZANIA) MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

"AS MEMBERS ARE AWARE, THIS QUESTION WAS

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THE SUBJECT OF CONSIDERATION BY THE ORGANIZATION
OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU) SUMMIT MEETING HELD AT
LIBREVILLE IN JULY THIS YEAR. THE SUMMIT'S
FOCAL ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF ITS OWN DECISION, TAKEN DURING THE SESSION
HELD IN MAURITIUS, TO CONVENE AN EXTRAORDINARY
SESSION DEVOTED TO THE EXAMINATION OF THE

SITUATION CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA.

"FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS, THE OAU ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, AT ITS FOURTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION, AGREED THAT THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION SHOULD BE HELD IN LUSAKA, ZAMBIA. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE SUMMIT MEETING WILL BE HELD DURING THE FIRST HALF OF OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

"IN THE LIGHT OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANT NATURE OF THE QUESTION, IT WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE COMMITTEE AGREE TO TAKE UP THE QUESTION AT ITS NEXT SESSION, SUBJECT TO ANY DECISION WHICH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MIGHT TAKE DURING ITS THIRTY-SECOND SESSION. THUS, THE QUESTION WOULD BE REFERRED DIRECTLY TO THE ASSEMBLY WHICH, THROUGH ITS FOURTH COMMITTEE, MAY CONSIDER THE ITEM AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME.

"IN THE MEANTIME, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE ASSEMBLY'S CONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER, THE COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO AUTHORIZE ITS RAPPORTEUR TO TRANSMIT TO THE ASSEMBLY ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON THE QUESTION.

"IN THIS RESPECT, I SHOULD LIKE TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMITTEE TO THE WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT ON THE QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT A/AC.109/L.1185 AND ADD. 1.

"AS THERE IS NO OBJECTION, I SHALL TAKE IT THAT THE COMMITTEE DECIDES TO ACCEPT THAT PROPOSAL.

"IT IS SO DECIDED."

3. COMMENT: THE 31ST UNGA (1976) ADOPTED A RESOLUTION (31/45) "WITHOUT OBJECTION" TAKING NOTE OF THE OAU'S DECISION TO CONVENE AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION ON WESTERN SAHARA AND DECIDING TO POSTPONE CONSIDERATION OF QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA UNTIL 32ND UNGA (1977). FOR 32ND UNGA, WESTERN SAHARA FALLS UNDER ITEM 24 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA: "IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE OF COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES." WHILE EVENTUAL OUTCOME MUST REMAIN UNCERTAIN, THERE WOULD APPEAR GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT, WITH OAU REMAINING SEIZED OF QUESTION, A RESOLUTION EFFECTING FURTHER POSTPONEMENT OF UNGA DEBATE MAY AGAIN BE ADOPTED. IN THIS CONNECTION THE NONALIGNED MAY WELL WISH

AGAIN TO AVOID THE DIVISIVE DEBATE OF 1975. (USUN IS
POUCHING COPIES OD DOCUMENT A/AC.109/L.1185 AND ADD. 1
TO ADDRESSEES FOR THEIR INFORMATION.) END COMMENT.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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